

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 01764 071814Z

63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 SAM-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /200 W

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R 071808Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7804

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 01764

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, US, UK

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XXIV:6

REF: EC BRUSSELS 747

1. IN A CONVERSATION ON FEBRUARY 6 WITH PETER GENT
(ASSISTANT SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
INDUSTRY), WE EXPRESSED DISMAV OVER THE RESULTS OF THE
INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE XXIV:6 BY THE MEMBERS
OF THE EC ARTICLE 113 COMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 4 (REFTEL).

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PAGE 02 LONDON 01764 071814Z

2. GENT SAID THAT THE UK WAS SURPRISED BY THE STRENGTH OF HIJZEN'S NEGATIVE POSITION. THE "MOST CRITICAL THING" NOW, HE SAID, IS FOR THE US TO MAKE AN IMPRESSION ON SOAMES. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, GENT SAID THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO DO THIS WOULD BE TO CLARIFY TO SOAMES, ON AN UNOFFICIAL BASIS, WHAT ITEMS IN THE JANUARY AIDE MEMOIRE ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ONES, AND TO STATE WITH MORE PRECISION WHAT THE US WOULD BE PREPARED TO SETTLE FOR ON EACH ONE. SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD UNDERCUT THE COMMISSION'S VIEW -- REFLECTED IN HIJZEN'S COMMENTS AT THE FEBRUARY 4 DINNER -- THAT THE US IS EXAGGERATING THE DAMAGE THAT WOULD BE DONE IF THE EC FAILED TO MAKE THE ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONS THAT THE US HAS REQUESTED.

3. GENT SAID THAT DENMAN HAD STRESSED AT THE DINNER THE NEED FOR THE COMMUNITY TO OFFER SOMETHING ON GRAINS AND TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE ON OTHER ITEMS. THE DISCUSSION DID NOT GET INTO THE DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL ITEMS. GENT SAID THAT ITALY'S POSITION ON FURTHER CONCESSIONS STILL SEEMS EQUIVOCAL, JUDGING FROM THE COMMENTS OF THE ITALIAN PARTICIPANTS AT THE DINNER.

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Message Attributes

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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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